

Supporting the CHW Workforce: MDPH Office of CHWs

PWTF Sustainability Committee

March 31, 2016

Gail Hirsch, MDPH Office of CHWs

Overview of the Office of CHWs

- Formally created in 2009 to promote, sustain and integrate CHWs in Massachusetts
- Located in Division of Prevention & Wellness in BCHAP
- Collaborates across DPH; convening Intra-Agency Workgroup to ensure coordinated efforts and consistent messaging

Areas of Focus: Tied to Sustainability

- Professional identity: CHW awareness campaign with providers, payers, CHWs
- CHW leadership and organizational development: MACHW
- Monitor CHW research; state and national initiatives
- TA for integration into multidisciplinary teams
- Training: coordination and sustainability; apprenticeship; Health Care Workforce Transformation Fund (Ch. 224)

Areas of Focus: Sustainability

- Workforce development: certification and workforce surveillance
- Certification update: closely tied to financing; draft regulations under administrative review before public comment
- Financing: MDPH convened Community-Clinical Linkages CoP (Community of Practice); mission to promote sustainable financing

Contact Information

Gail Hirsch, Co-Director

Office of Community Health Workers
Division of Prevention and Wellness, MDPH

gail.hirsch@state.ma.us

MDPH Office of CHWs:

www.mass.gov/dph/communityhealthworkers

MA Board of Certification of CHWs

<http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/gov/departments/dph/programs/hcq/dhpl/community-health-workers/>

Massachusetts Association of Community Health Workers (MACHW)

www.machw.org

Thank you!